

Immortal Weapon Fanzine



ISSUE 2.5 FEATURING

**DISPERSED
AFFLICTION**

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Yo, thanks for checking out this zine, sorry it took me 2 and a half issues to have an introduction section but better late than never. This zine started as a fun side project to distract myself from making band merch for hardcore bands and it's been a cool journey so far. Immortal Weapon Fanzine is a straight edge zine, but that doesn't mean I won't feature non-edge bands. IxW is against the normalization of drug culture. IxW believes that *Hardcore is for anybody and not for everybody*, put in the work, go to shows, make a zine, book shows if you can no matter how small they are, make a band and record a shitty demo. Hardcore doesn't care about you if you don't care about it.

-LxR



Immortal Weapon Fanzine with Mike and Gehrig from Dispersed

IxW: Yo, what's up, how we doing? I want to start by saying thank you for doing this for the zine!

First, I'd like you to introduce yourself and what you do in the band!

M: What's up! I'm Mike and I sing in a band called "Dispersed".

G: Hey dude! Thanks for taking the time to interview us for your zine! My name is Gehrig and I play bass

Let's talk Hardcore first, what was your introduction to Hardcore and what made you want to be involved in it?

M: My introduction to hardcore was actually pretty early in high-school. I remember hearing Gorilla Biscuits record "Start Today" and that really solidified my love for hardcore and what it stands for. As far as wanting to be involved I think the positivity and unity it stood for back in the 80's-90's really resonated with me and I would love to see more of that in our current scene.

G: I always loved Gorilla Biscuits since I was like 14 but didn't know they were a hardcore band or even what hardcore was. I just thought they were another punk rock band that my Mom had let me borrow her CD of. She worked at Tower Records my whole childhood and showed me so many bands. But it wasn't until I heard Comeback Kid on some Victory Records comp when I realized they were something different from the other Victory bands I had been listening to. I loved bands like Bayside and wanted to be in a band, but when I saw the music video for Wake The Dead, I knew that's the kind of band I wanted to be in.

IxW: I wanna talk about Dispersed for a good while, how did the band form?

M: Dispersed actually formed with myself, Gehrig, and Casey. It started off as just wanting to write a song or two back in 2018-2019. Eventually, it sort of just evolved into what the band is now.

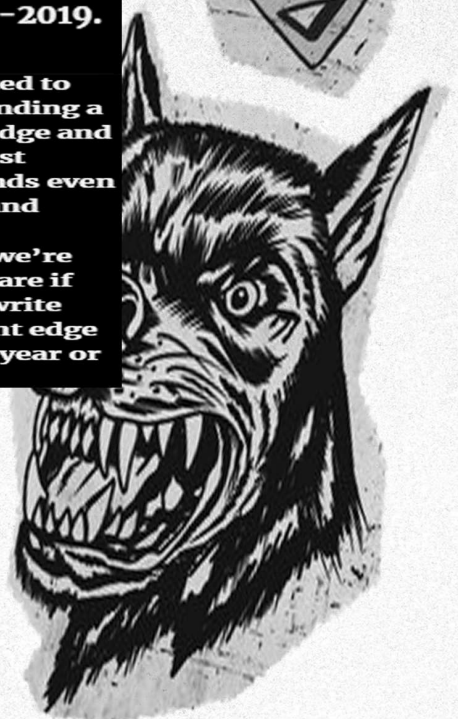
G: Me, my brother Casey (guitar) and Mike (vocals) originally wanted to start a straight edge band. We wrote some songs and had trouble finding a straight edge drummer so we brought in Gabe who is not straight edge and just decided to write whatever came out. It's been so fun and the best experience we've all ever had being in a band. We were all best friends even before we started playing music and we're finally all in the same band together!

We do have a straight edge song we play live sometimes and when we're done I always yell "except Gabe!" into the mic haha. But we don't care if people don't like that. I think it's important for Mike to be able to write lyrics that are important to him regardless of who is or isn't straight edge in the band. I'd love to release the song as a single on edge day one year or something.

IxW: What are your main influences as a band?

M: As far as influences I'd say we were inspired by bands such as: TUI, Backtrack, Comeback Kid, Youth of Today, GB, and so much more.

G: I know for most of us, the reason we ever even picked up an instrument was because of blink 182. As far as hardcore bands go my favorites are Gorilla Biscuits, Madball, Youth of Today, and we're really influenced in sound and song writing by bands like Backtrack and Trapped Under Ice.



IxW: You guys being from such a big scene in California as a whole, how would you describe SDHC?

M: Our SDHC scene really needs a lot of work and I mean that coming from a good place. I want the youth to look at this community and think it's a place where they can see themselves get inspired and involved.

G: San Diego has had so many great hardcore bands over the years. I love how diverse the sound has been as well. That's my favorite thing about hardcore, that so many different sounding bands can fall under the "hardcore" umbrella.

The scene has really been thriving and a ton of youngsters are coming out and starting bands of their own. It's so great to see.

DISPERSED DISPERSED

IxW: Dispersed just got a new single out "Sick as a Dog" I really fuck with the song! How's the reception doing for that song and the band itself?

M: "Sick As A Dog" is probably one of my favorite songs we have in our roster and I couldn't be more stoked to share it with everybody. It features Jay Pepito who I can call a good friend and I'm honored to have an absolute legend on our track. When we were writing it we had this short obsession with "The Jerky Boys" and I just had to turn those skits into a hardcore song. This was easily the most fun we've had writing a song and with the momentum we've had from this release I'm hoping to continue it in our songs and shows.

G: Thanks so much dude! That means a lot. I think I can safely speak for everyone when I say it's our favorite song we've put out so far. It seems like everyone loves the song! It was so rad to get Jay Pepito to do guest vocals on that song too. Mike and Jay work at the same barber shop and they're real tight so it was such a natural fit to have him on it!

IxW: This is a Straight Edge Zine, I'd like to talk about it with you boys. What does Straight Edge mean to you and how did you discover it?

M: To me being straight edge is the only thing I really know now. I've had too many negative influences growing up and I knew exactly what I didn't want to be. It means being present and not letting anything hinder my ability to think or let a substance get the best of me. I was actually introduced to what this was by my band mates Gehrig and Casey back in high school.

G: Straight Edge is really personal and important to me. When I was in high school a lot of my friends started going to parties and drinking and doing drugs. They started hanging with all the kids we clowned on for bragging about how fucked up they got over the weekend. It was something I felt like I never wanted to be a part of, but to everyone else it seemed so normal. At the same time my parents were going through a nasty divorce. I felt really alone and isolated most of the time with no one to really help me through these two parts of my life. I felt like I was losing. My friends and my family. Then I learned about straight edge from the back of an H2O shirt. The one with the Youth of Today fist on it. I started reading about straight edge and suddenly I didn't feel so alone anymore. I realized there were other people like me who didn't want to take part in the drinking and drugs and the party scene. I was probably 15 then and now at 32 I've still never tried anything to this day. Straight Edge really helped me understand myself and shape my life.

IxW: Give me your top 5 Straight Edge bands, no order

M: My top five straight edges bands are: Gorilla Biscuits, Youth of Today, Earth Crisis, and One King Down

G: Youth of Today, Have Heart, Judge, Gorilla Biscuits, Minor Threat.



...rings, CA - Mas More Better Skate Shop



IxW: Dispersed being from such a big scene in California with such a rich history of bands coming from CA, is there any pressure as a band to stick out and get out of your state more? Or are you mostly chill just playing shows for the sake of playing shows?

M: I honestly don't think we have a hard time sticking out as a band which I think is so cool because we have songs that cater to so many crowds. We really do our best to play outside of San Diego as much as possible. We actually have a tour coming up and we'll be sinking our teeth into the Midwest and I can't even tell you how stoked I am to be going out there with the guys.

G: We love getting out on the road and playing new cities. The only way I know how to be in a band is DIY. We don't wait for an offer out of town or wait for a booking agency to get us shows or tours. Don't get me wrong, we'd love the help but we're not gonna wait for all that to come to us. We know we can build a name for ourselves by touring as well as playing shows locally. We're not waiting for a record deal or anything like that to get out there!

IxW: You guys did a show under Slow Death Promotions with a bunch of sick bands! Wish I could've been there, how was the show? I've seen a couple flyers under SDP, how have they been treating y'all?

M: It's truly been such a blast playing shows under Slow Death Promotions! Our last show was great, it was a late night but we do our best to keep the energy up with every show we are involved in. SDP treats us with nothing but love and respect, Elton, the guy who runs SDP has been such an impact on the community. He gave us a new home and we won't take that for granted.

G: Our friend Elton runs Slow Death and he is the absolute best. When people in hardcore talk about community and DIY ethos, he embodies that. Everyone is welcome to play Slow Death shows. There's no egos there. The shows are always a blast and I have made new best friends in this past year Slow Death started that I know will last a lifetime. I'm very thankful for friends like Elton and all the people who play Slow Death shows

IxW: What can we expect from you guys after this tour you'll have from the 26th of August to September 9th?

M: As for after our tour I'd say you can expect more shows being played and we're hoping to put more songs out for y'all in the near future!

G: We've got a bunch of songs written and demos recorded. We'll be recording them for real and putting out an EP in the near future! Other than that, we're working on another tour for December that should be announced in a couple months if all goes well. December tours can be crazy for us because we're not built for the cold and the snow. We're San Diego dudes! I don't even own winter clothes other than a hoodie or light jacket! Haha. But we'll be better prepared for this December after learning from last year!

IxW: That'll be all! Any parting words? Shout outs? The floor is yours!

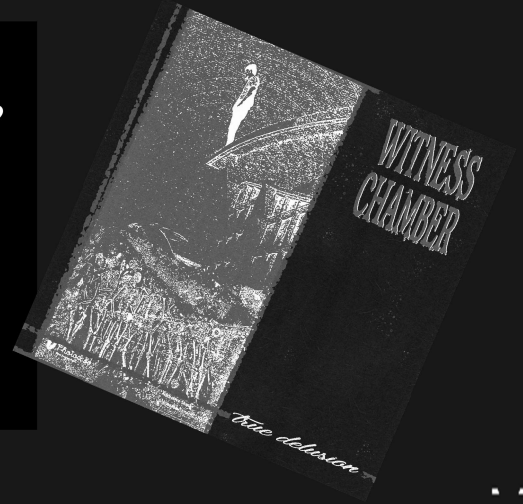
M: I don't think I have any parting words except thank you to everybody who has given us a chance none of this would happen the way it did without any of you.

G: I definitely wanna say thank you for doing cool stuff like this zine and interviewing bands etc. There's no other scene like hardcore and without this community we don't have shit! Let's keep encouraging the youngsters to start bands and carry on after us! Shout outs to my favorite SD band Nowhere Safe and all our friends in Crashing Forward, Spiritual Warfare and all the NC foos!
Go Padres!



IMMORTAL WEAPON'S BANDS TO CHECK OUT ASAP

WITNESS CHAMBER- TRUE DELUSION
THESE DUDES ARE WAY STUPID HARD,
REMINDS ME A LOT OF FOUNDATION,
THIS EP FEATURES KILLER PEOPLE
LIKE JESS NYX FROM WORLD OF
PLEASURE AND MAXIMUS HALL FROM
EGO DEATH. BOISE ON
MOTHAFUCKING TOP.



STATESIDE – IT'S WHAT WE DO
AWESOME RECORD, FALL OUT BOY
VIBES, MADE BY HARDCORE FOLKS
IN BANDS LIKE DARE, TAKE IT TO
HEART, SANCTIFY. EMO IS BACK
AND IT'S ACTUALLY TOLERABLE
NOW. LOVE THIS RECORD. SHOUT
OUT BEN HUGHES



IMMORTAL WEAPON – DEMO 2023
THESE KIDS ARE INSANELY YOUNG
AND HAVE THE HC SPIRIT AROUND
THEM, THEY SOUND LIKE
MAGNITUDE, CUT 'EM SOME SLACK
THIS IS THEIR FIRST DEMO AND
THEY'RE STILL EXPERIMENTING
WITH HOW THEY WANT TO SOUND
LIKE. GIVE IT A LISTEN, HARDCORE
IS FOR THE YOUTH.



Immortal Weapon Fanzine with Aiden of Affliction (x805x Straight Edge)

IxW: What's up dude! How are you doing? Thank you for your time for the zine

A: Whaddup! I'm doing great just listening to life love regret on vinyl right now

IxW: I wanna start with the question I ask all my guests, how did you get into Hardcore?

A: I got into hardcore from my dad. Unbroken and Earth Crisis was always playing around me growing up. He's been a big influence on me. Ecocide was one of the first hardcore songs I have listened to.

IxW: You're part of one of the biggest hardcore scenes in the world, how does it feel to grow up in a scene that has influenced a ton of people around the globe?

A: I love being in the 805 scene. Everyone knows each other and it's basically a family.

IxW: We're both edge men so I want to ask you this, how did you discover straight edge? What was the focal point for you to claim edge?

A: I discovered straight edge from earth crisis. I claimed edge because I knew a lot of people who have gone down a bad path of drug addiction and I didn't want to become one of them.

IxW: Want to talk about Affliction, what's the history behind the band? How did it form? What's been the reception like for your band?

A: Our band formed by one of our close friends connecting me and the rest of the guys together. We were all straight edge and all wanted to start an edge band. Our first show was really special and it kicked it off for all of us.



IxW: The demo is really sick dude, it's that angry straight edge music that I personally have missed a lot, it reminds me of Agitator being so aggressive. What was the mindset behind the Demo?

A: Thank you, we're really happy about it. Our mindset was writing some ass beaters with straight edge lyrics. New music coming soon

IxW: You guys are young as hell! Makes me happy to see young kids putting bands out, what would you say to someone that wants to make a band?

A: Start a band with friends, anyone can do it.

IxW: Affliction has been on a ton of shows as of late, seems like California really digs and supports you guys, the embrace you all have had is insane, how does it feel?

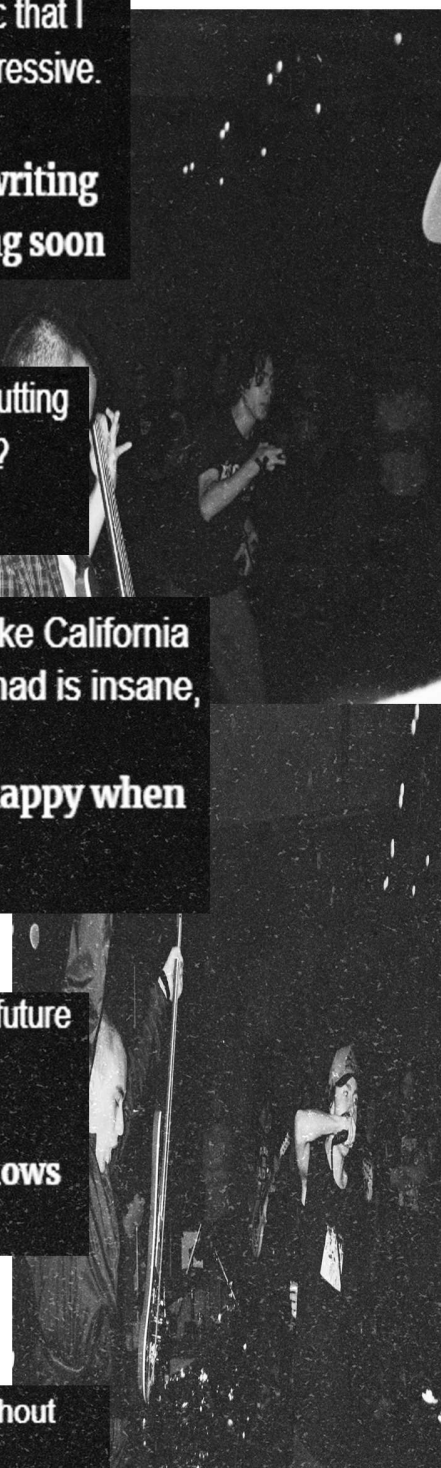
A: It feels great that people like us. It really makes us happy when people book us consistently

IxW: You have a couple shows coming but, what can we expect in the future for Affliction and you personally?

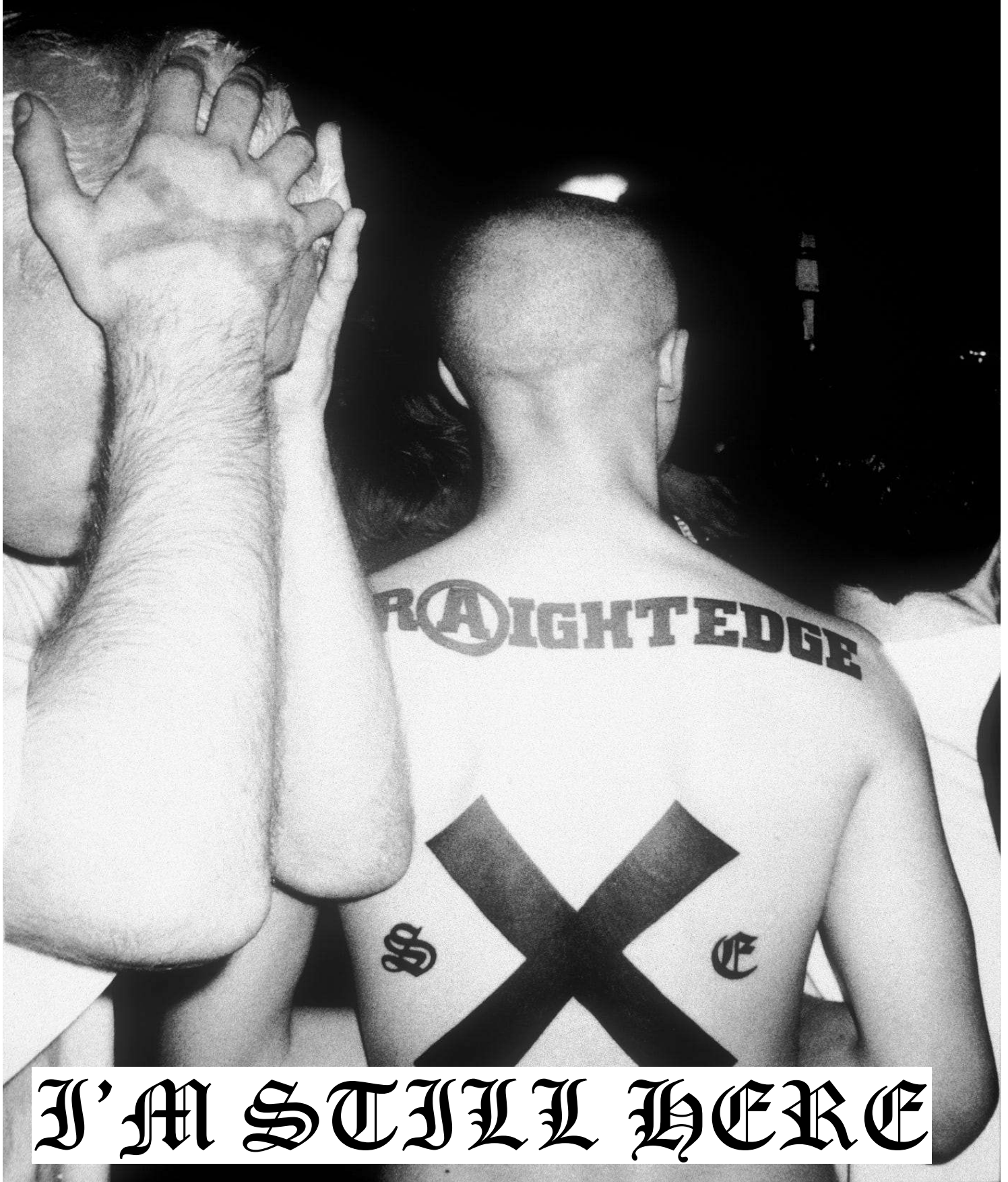
A: We have some big shows coming up. We got music coming eventually. Tapes and merch too. I just want to keep playing shows with awesome bands.

IxW: That's it yo, thank you so much for your time! Any comments? Shout outs? Etc, this is your chance!

A: Shout-out vhc shows, Cole from firestarter and major pain, the whole 805 scene, bare minimum, in time, detach, Toren. X805 straight edgeX



STRAIGHT EDGE



I'M STILL HERE



Dedication:

**For those who bear the mark
This "X" is my immortal weapon
In this war to keep my mind
Free and clear**

**Armed with this
I will never surrender my identity
I will never relinquish my control
My destiny is in my hands**

No temptation, no surrender, I am free and clear

**There is no force or power
stronger than this conviction
There is no end in sight
straight edge until my dying breath**

- Ecostrike "Immortal Weapon"
Thanks for reading, see you at Issue

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